

**AMENDMENT C**  
(37 C.F.R. 1.111)

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification to add a numeral designation -- 50 -- to the "furnace" reference in the applicable paragraphs of the specification at page 5 line 24 and at page 13, line 14. The affected paragraphs are attached herein on separate sheets.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121.

The claims are attached herein on separate sheets.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please substitute the enclosed corrected Fig. 1 for the same figure originally filed. A marked-up version of the amended Figure(s) and a new replacement drawing is attached herein.

Fig. 1 has been amended to comply with the Examiner's request to include the additional feature of the baking furnace claimed in the apparatus claims 9 and 13 wherein the plated blade material is directed from the take-up reels to the baking furnace.

On page 5, in the paragraph starting at line 19 and ending at line 24:

4) A continuous ceramic composite plating method for long doctor base materials is characterized by comprising letting out the long doctor base materials plated by the method described in any one of the above items 1) to 3) from the take-up reels, straightening out and baking the long doctor base materials by passing through a heating furnace 50.

On page 13, in the paragraph starting at line 13 and ending at line 18:

Baking is carried out by straightening out the base material blade and supplying it to a straightening furnace (50) after the base material blade is taken up on the take-up reel. The hardness of the blade is improved by this baking. As baking conditions, for example, a temperature of 100 to 400°C and a time of 0.5 to 3 hours may be employed.